

## **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY**

UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE WASHINGTON, D.C. 20223

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Program Communications Center 245 Murray Lane, S.W., Building T-5 Washington, D.C. 20223

Date: DEC 1 () 2018

MuckRock Sai DEPT MR 62777 411A Highland Avenue Somerville, MA 02144-2516 62777-34910188@requests.muckrock.com

File Number: 20190192

Dear Requester:

This letter is intended to acknowledge receipt of your recent Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request, which was received by the United States Secret Service (Secret Service) on December 3, 2018, for information pertaining to:

- Email metadata or every email sent to or from any internet domain name owned or operated by or for United States Secret Service or intranet domain name owned or operated by or for United States Secret Service, including all subdomains thereof stored on any Governmentaccessible server, in electronic format, at the time this request was made or at the time the search on this request was made;
- All records relating to the fulfillment of this request, such as FOIA logs, documentation of searches, referral emails, etc.; and
- All records relating to any complaint(s), FOIA request(s)/appeal(s), and/or Privacy Act request(s)/appeal(s) made by me. This includes, but is not limited to: all records relating to the processing my previous requests, complaints, etc.; all records containing the terms my name, email address(es), and other contact or identifying information, listed below my signature; and all records containing any of my complaint, request or appeal identifiers.

As it relates to your request for a fee waiver, the FOIA regulations, Title 6 C.F.R., Chapter I, Part 5 § 5.11(k)(2)(3), set forth six factors to examine when determining whether the applicable legal standard for a fee waiver has been met:

- 1) Whether the subject of the requested records concerns "the operations or activities of the government;"
- 2) Whether the disclosure is "likely to contribute" to an understanding of government operations or activities;
- 3) Whether disclosure of the requested information will contribute to the understanding of the public at large, as opposed to the individual understanding of the requestor or a narrow segment of interested persons;
- 4) Whether the contribution of public understanding of government operations or activities will be "significant;"
- 5) Whether the requester has a commercial interest that would be furthered by the requested disclosure; and
- 6) Whether the magnitude of any identified commercial interest to the requestor is sufficiently large in comparison with the public interest in disclosure, that disclosure is primarily in the commercial interest of the requestor.

As a requester, you bear the burden under the FOIA of showing that the fee waiver requirements have been met. Based on our review of your request letter and for the reasons stated therein, it has been determined that your fee waiver request is deficient because it does not meet any of the six factors under which a fee waiver is granted. After a thorough review of your request, it has been determined that you have not presented a convincing argument of how the records would significantly contribute to public understanding of government operations or activities. Therefore, your fee waiver request has been denied.

Please be advised, we shall charge you for the records in accordance with Interim FOIA regulations as they apply to non-commercial ("all other") requesters. The first 100 pages of duplication are free of charge. As an "all other" requester, you will be charged .10 cents a page for the duplication of each additional page. As an "all other" requester, the first 2 hours of search time are free of charge, after which you will be charged the per quarter-hour rate (\$4.00, \$7.00, \$10.25) of the searcher.

Furthermore, the submission of your request is viewed as an agreement, by you, to pay duplication and search time costs up to \$25.00. A search for files responsive to your request is being conducted. The appropriate components of the Secret Service are being queried for responsive documents. If any responsive records are located, they will be reviewed for a disclosure determination. You will be contacted before any additional fees are accrued.

Due to the increasing number of FOIA requests received by this office, we may encounter some delay in processing your request. Per Section 5.5(a) of the FOIA regulations, 6 C.F.R, Chapter I, Part 5, the Service processes FOIA requests according to their order of receipt.

If you deem the decision to deny your fee waiver request an adverse determination, you may exercise your appeal rights. Should you wish to file an administrative appeal, your appeal should be made in writing and received within sixty (60) days of the date of this letter, by writing to: Freedom of Information Appeal, Deputy Director, U.S. Secret Service, Communications Center, 245 Murray Lane, S.W., Building T-5, Washington, D.C. 20223. If you choose to file an administrative appeal, please explain the basis of your appeal and reference the case number listed above.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss this matter, please contact this office at (202) 406-6370. FOIA File No. 20190192 is assigned to your request. Please refer to this file number in all future communication with this office.

Sincerely,

Kim E. Campbell

Special Agent In Charge

Freedom of Information Act & Privacy Act Officer